

Bernal Journal

December '93/January '94

Serving the Bernal Heights Neighborhood of San Francisco

Volume 31 • Number 1 • Free!

Immaculate Conception **Church Defeats** Closure





Since 1913, Immaculate Conception Church, on Folsom Street at Precita Avenue, has been a special place of worship for generations of Bernal residents. In November it faced closure.along with 11 other Catholic churches throughout San Francisco. It will remain open as a Chapel.

Emergency Meals for Bernal Seniors who Face Hunger

mediate and affordable meal delivery services to frail seniors in the community, a new Emergency Meal Program is being organized by the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center 's (BHNC) Senior Services. The idea of the program became a reality through a recent grant award by the Myrtle V. Fitschen Charitable Trust Fund to

In response to the lack of im- improve the health and well being of the elderly in San Francisco.

"The Emergency Meal Program is a direct response to the frustration of long waiting lists for meal delivery service to our community's frail elderly," explained Vicki Victoria, BHNC Senior Program Director. "I've referred many frail seniors to

- continued on page 11...

Housing and Urban development (HUD) has awarded the San Francisco Housing Authority (SFHA) a \$50 million Urban Revitalization Development (URD) grant

The federal Department of

for the demolition and reconstruction of Bernal Dwellings (the "Army Street projects") and another distressed project in the

The SFHA will use the funds to: 1) tear down the existing 208 units in 13 buildings that constitute the Bernal Dwellings; 2) reconstruct 160 units in new two and three story townhouses, in the same architectural style and scale as the surrounding neighborhood; 3) build two new streets through the block to split the de-

- continued on page 13...



Did th Mad Hatter cast a spell on Bernal Heights? No, but Greg Gavin's hat making table at the Fiesta onthe Hill showed neighbors how to have fun with recycled material. This fashionable group displays some of the whacky, fun and spontaneous spirit that reigned at the annual community celebration.

Fiesta '93 Highlights...page 6 & 7

Bernal Neighbors Question the Bayside Discharge Alternatives Project

Stop the Sewer Shaft?

an Francisco may drill a tunnel beneath Bernal Hill and a shaft through the heart of the hill to transport wastewater from the eastern side of the City to the Pacific Ocean. Technical staff at the Department of Public Works (DPW) are currently trying to identify the impacts of this scheme.

Presently, raw sewage from the east side of San Francisco flows to the Southeast Treatment Plant located at 750 Phelps Street, where it is treated. During dry weather, the wastewater goes through a deep water outfall at Pier 80 (near Army Street), and into San Francisco Bay. San Francisco has a combined sewer system which means that both sewage and rain water drain into the same pipes. During heavy rains, what can't fit through the outfall discharges into the Islais Creek Channel.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board requires the City to choose an alternative to this present system. The deadline for - continued on page 4...

Neighbors

City Wins Millions to Rebuild Army Street Projects

Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center and Housing Corporation Support Pivotal

City.

velopment up into four smaller

Demand Removal **Police** Captain

On November 18th nearly four dozen Bernal residents from the Cortland/Moultrie/Crescent Streets areas of the hill met at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center (BHNC) for an urgent meeting to address the rise in crime and desperate need for police services in their area of Moultrie Street. Police officers were asked to attend this emergency meeting, but no one from the Ingleside Station, which serves Bernal Heights, showed

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Neighborhood Shopping Guide & Classifieds: Page 8 & 9

§Bernal Journal

515 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110 (415) 206-2144

The New Bernal Journal is a bi-monthly neighborhood newspaper sponsored by the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. It is dedicated to providing the people of Bernal Heights with community news, ideas, issues, and events that support the Center's mission: "To empower people in efforts to preserve the ethnic, cultural, and economic diversity of Bernal Heights and improve the economic condition of low and moderate income people in Bernal Heights." The New Bernal Journal is distributed door to door, free in Bernal Heights. Articles express the views of contributors and not necessarily those of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center.

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Editor Photography Art Production Distribution Contributors

Vicki Victoria Robert Henderson, Vicki Victoria Victoria Graphics

David Rogers & a cast of hundreds! Buck Bagot, Lisa Kaborchya, Helen Helfer, Linda Eckman, Mauricio Vela, Barbara Pitschel, Susan Stern, Jessica Murray, Demece Garepis

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Immaculate Conception

- continued from page 1...

their beloved church from clo-

'We are still in shock, but are so overwhelmed with happiness that our church will not close." exclaimed Fr. Guillermo Lauriola, Pastor of Immaculate Conception. Better known to his parishioners as "Fr. William," he added "We are so happy that we can continue serving people here in Bernal Heights.

"It was terrible, simply unbelievable," exclaimed Fr. William upon having to inform his parishioners of the closure in November. "There was no earthquake damage to our church. We are self sufficient and have no debts. We run a good school. Our only fault is that our congregation is small and growing old."

The "quaint, tiny" church on Folsom Street at Precita Avenue has been a sacred place of worship for Catholics in Bernal Heights since 1912. The church was originally established to serve the Italian-American populations who lived on the hill, but today its small congregation of 250 is just as diverse as Bernal. "Everyone -Filipinos, Spanish, Europeans all come here to worship and everyone feels that they've found something special here each time

Letters

Good News in **Precita Valley**

Are we ready for some good news?!! The Precita Valley Committee (met in mid-November) at St. Anthony's School and we were overcome with positive energy!

The park is nearly finished on the east end and we are working to improve the west end. The youth have used the park and we are working with the adults to keep it looking wonderful!

Our CPOP officer, Raymond Gee, is being very present to our community and positive about his beat.

We have two part-time directors of gang prevention in our area and have been very influential in helping our neighborhood youth as well as the youth in the Mission

they walk through our doors,' says Fr. William.

Immaculate Conception will not physically close, but it will be re-organized as a chapel of St. Anthony's Church, instead of remaining as a separate parish. "We will remain open with the same services and staff," explained Fr. Sergio Santos of Immaculate Conception. "We are all so happy to have stayed open. There were so many people who came to the closure hearings, wrote letters and made phone calls." Fr. Santos sighs with relief and joy as he adds, "And the phone just keeps ringing with people congratulating us on remaining open."

In June, 1994, Immaculate Conception will begin imple-

and Outer Mission areas to find jobs and to make better choices with their lives.

We have a new director of the Precita Center...Jose Marquez! We welcome Joe and assure him of our support and participation.

A group of youth helped our neighbors in the Bernal Dwellings by painting out graffiti and making their homes better places to live.

Proposition J monies are being allocated to helping our youth with better programs and more supervision.

We have a positive feel about our neighborhood and have formed a strong support and caring community.

At this time of Thanksgiving and as we prepare for Christmas and the birthday of our Savior, our hearts are full of hope, joy and profound gratitude to all.

> - Sister John Ellen Turner, O.P. Principal of St. Anthony School

menting its merge with St. Anthony's Parish, located on Army Street, only two blocks from Immaculate Conception. Fr. William reasoned that physically merging the two churches would have not been successful, "Worship is based on freedom of the spirit. You can't tell people where to go to pray. The spirit has to move you, guide you and inspire you." Immaculate Conception Parishioners say that the intimacy

- continued on page 3...

Don't Abandon Your Library

Like many other families in Bernal Heights, ours is a big fan of Dorothy Coakley, appreciative of her care and activity in our community. We also were dismayed at her transfer and wrote letters in support of keeping her at the Bernal branch. But what disturbs me even more now is that our fondness and respect for Dorothy seem to be shaping into criticism of the current staff.

All right, I admit that went back to the library, post-Dorothy, with a chip on my shoulder. "How could anyone be good enough to follow in her footsteps? What a disservice to our kids!" What a pleasant surprise the summer turned out to be, getting to know Julio Medina, the current Bernal children's librarian. He is thoughtful, very well-informed about children's literature and media, sensitive to different cultures in our community, engaging (he captured the hearts of both my 4year-old and my 8-year-old) and, we should all notice, doing a great job in an extremely hard situation which was not of his making.

Let's don't let our love for Dorothy and our desire to have her back make us blind to a gem of a person who is currently serving our children.

I urge families and teachers to take advantage of Julio's presence here and not to abandon the library in the belief that without Dorothy, "there's nothing worth going to the library for." I am sure that Dorothy herself would support this view. Thanks, Julio; keep up the good work.- Pat Jackson

(and Ginger and Jasper)

at The Good Life Grocery

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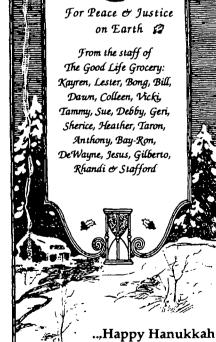


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Merry Christmas...





Precita Park Playground is Finished!

Children now fill the park after months of construction delays

Well, it's almost finished.

After years of badgering, Bernal Heights residents have gotten the city and its private contractor to complete the renovation of the Precita Park playground.

The neighborhood celebrated the grand opening of the refurbished playground on October 9th, about six months after the groundbreaking, and more than a year after the project was conceived.

Since the festive opening, the playground has been crowded with hundreds of happy kids and their parents. The play structure is huge, bright and safe. The new swings glisten in the sun. The sand is clean; the grass is lush.

There is, however, unfinished and ongoing work at the park...and we need everyone who uses the park to help.

First, parents are still keeping the pressure on the Department of Public Works to get permanent garbage cans for the playground, fix the merry-go-round and attend to other unfinished details. We are told the merry-go-round will be replaced soon and the garbage cans will be ordered.

The person to call to make sure this stuff gets done, or make comments about any other playground problems, is Joe Timonere of the Department of Public Works.

Second, Margo Freistadt, one of the parents active in the effort to get the playground finished, is looking for other friends of the playground to help take care of the park.

For the most part, people have taken good care of the new playground. But there are always those who litter and scar even their own stuff with graffiti.

Margo is asking people to pick up litter when they take their kids to the park and help her wipe out graffiti. Leave your name and phone number on the "Friends of the Park" list at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, and Margo will help you assemble a simple park clean-up kit to take along when you take your kids to the park.

"I want to establish the park as a place that's clean and safe for our kids," said Margo. "The time to get started taking care of it is now, when its clean and new." •

By Susan Stern



Children and their families take advantage of a sunny November afternoon to enjoy the new playground equipment in the rennovated Precita Park on Precita Avenue at Alabama Street.

Immaculate Conception

- Continued from page 2...

and family-like feeling at their small church would have been lost in a larger parish and that its congregation of mostly elderly members would have been displaced, alienated and very hurt. "It's not our fault that our congregation is old," says Fr. William, "The fault lies with the world trends of the church and how the church runs today. Our congregation shouldn't be punished because we are old."

"Sure it's just a tiny church, but it and Fr. William are also a big part of the community," explained parishioner Jan Botza. "And because we're small, we are like a big family. Immaculate Conception is a very big part of our lives." Botza has two grandchildren who attend Immaculate Conception's school of 280 students, which will also remain open.

Botza recalls when Immaculate Conception's parishioners presented the Archdiocese with a petition filled with hundreds of signatures protesting the closure of their church, just a couple of days after the closure was announced. "They were very surprised," remarked Botza, "I think that they didn't expect our little church to do anything." Botza says that support for Immaculate Conception extends beyond Bernal Heights, as hundreds of past

parishioners who have long since moved out of the city attended the church's monthly Spaghetti Dinner on November 17th. "There were 500 hundred people who came from everywhere. This shows how much the church means to us - how special it is and that we were ready to fight for

Fr. William felt very indebted to many people who helped to save the church, "especially our parishioners who fought so hard and for the support of the Bernal community, St. Anthony's, St. Kevin's and the New Bernal Journal - everyone helped us so much and we are very grateful." •

- By Vicki Victoria

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Thanks To Everyone In The Neighborhood For A Great 1993!

Randall Kostick

661-0269



Sewer Shaft

continued from page 1...

selecting a new plan is November 1, 1994. The DPW staff have come up with six alternatives for comparison:

construct a force main to send all wastewater from the north side of the city to the Southeast Treatment Plant for treatment. Ulti-

1) The "No-Build" Alternative Do nothing.

2) New 150 MGD Bay Outfall

Construct a new, deeper outfall that will stretch further into San Francisco Bay.

3) Crosstown Force Main

Install a force main and pump stations (large pipes beneath city streets, through which the wastewater is pumped) routed along Alemany Boulevard, beside Lake Merced, to the Ocean Outfall near the Zoo.

4) Crosstown Tunnel and Surge Shaft (250 MGD)

Drill a 10.5 foot diameter tunnel beneath Bernal Heights, with a surge shaft up to 30 feet in diameter through the heart of the hill. The surge shaft will protect the tunnel against pressure surges from the wastewater being pumped at the treatment plant and the changing tidal levels in the ocean. Also, the surge shaft planned for Bernal Hill will be the primary air vent along the 37,000 feet of tunnel extending from the Southeast Treatment Plant to the Ocean Outfall.

5) Crosstown Tunnel and Surge Shaft (400 MGD) Drill a larger tunnel, 13 feet in diameter beneath Bernal Heights, same surge shaft.

6) Water Recycling

Export reclaimed water to Central Valley farmers. In this scenario, San Francisco will join with other Bay area wastewater agencies to transport reclaimed water to the San Joaquin Valley, where it will ingate fields and crops.

Originally, City staff described the surge shaft as being about the size of a manhole grate, flush with the land surface, at one of the four locations shown. At the September 14th meeting, they presented a 30 foot diameter structure with an 11 by 17 foot grate and a building to house the filtering system. The City plans to eventually

mately, all the treated wastewater from the northern and eastern sides of San Francisco may travel through the tunnel.

Some Neighborhood Concerns

Earthquakes: San Francisco is in an area of high seismic risk. Scientists at the US Geological Survey have estimated that there is a 67% chance of an earthquake at least as big as the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake in the Bay area during the next 30 years. Up until now, Bernal Heights has been extremely fortunate and has enjoyed relative stability during earthquakes. What uncertainties and dangers will the surge shaft and tunnel introduce in our lives?

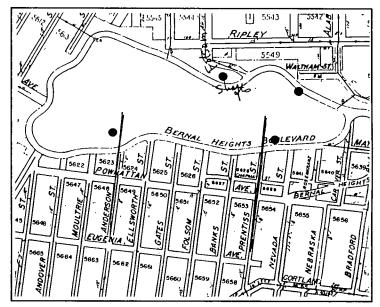
Earthquakes may crack the tunnel somewhere along its 37,000 foot length. Wastewater seeping from these cracks might pollute our groundwater.

Air Emissions: It is important to keep in mind that wastewater-and not raw sewage-would be moving through the tunnel. (Wastewater is raw sewage which has been treated, and from which many of the pollutants have been removed.) The current City plans call for an activated carbon filtering system within the surge shaft. The air emission will have to meet air regulations that were developed to protect the general public-hopefully we will be safe.

But what about our more vulnerable neighbors, the ones with fragile health? Those with allergies, asthma, compromised immune systems (AIDS or cancer), respiratory ailments, pregnant women, young children, and our senior citizens? What will the air emission do to them?

Furthermore, what will the air emissions do to people who exercise heavily at (or getting to) the top of our hill? Using Bernal Hill to discharge air emissions conflicts directly with the designation of public recreation and open space, centered in a larger residential community.

Odors: Whataboutodors? Will the filters remove all the compounds that cause odors?



the alternatives for the crosstown tunnel.

be drilled beneath Bernal Hill, and a pilot shaft of 12 to 16 feet in diameter will be drilled from the top of the hill down to meet the tunnel. Contractors will use explosives and blast to widen the shaft. How much vibration will there be? If damage occurs to residences during construction, will the City be liable for repairs?

Costs: (see chart A for total construction costs).

Regulations are growing more

Construction: The tunnel will this points to the fact that the City decision makers could choose the tunnel surge shaft alternative simply by process of elimination.

As a group of concerned Bernal Heights neighbors, we support accelerating the Water Recycling option so that it can be considered on equal footing with the other alternatives. We strongly oppose the Crosstown Tunnel and Surge Shafts alternatives and support Water Recycling as the most promising. We urge you to care-

| | Construction | Annual | |
|--------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Alternative | Cost | Operating Costs | |
| 1) No-Build | -0- | 77 | |
| 2) New Bay Outfall | \$70 million | \$1.3 to 1.8 million per year | |
| 3) Crosstown | | | |
| Force Main | \$140 million | \$3.6 million per year | |
| 4) Crosslown | | | |
| 10.5 foot Tunnel/ | \$220 million | \$950,000 per year | |
| Surge Shaft | | | |
| 5) Crosstown | | | |
| 13 foot Tunnel/ | \$230 million | \$950,000 per year | |
| Surge Shaft | | | |
| 6) Water Recycling | \$3 billion—may qualify for federal Export Project | | |
| | financing, will be shared among other Bay | | |
| | arca agencies | | |

Chart A

stringent at both the federal and state level. The concentrations of compounds allowed in discharge to the bay are much lower than they used to be. Alternatives 1 and 2 are unlikely to meet these limits. When one considers the annual operating costs along with construction costs, the tunnel/ surge shaft alternatives begin to look like a bargain. Although the Water Recycling is an promising alternative, this option is still in the preliminary stages. Please note that of all the alternatives, only the 13 foot diameter tunnel has adequate capacity to meet the City's long-range plans. In short,

fully consider these alternatives and make you opinions known to the Board of Supervisors.

Where We Are Now:

City staff members are currently preparing a draft Environmental Impact Report (draft EIR), which describes the six alternatives and will try to list the impacts of each. The schedule for publishing the draft EIR is late 1993 or early 1994. There will be public hearings and a written comment period of 30 days. The Office of Environmental Review MUST respond to all comments

- coninued on page 5...

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the development will encroach onto Bernal Hilltop's open space. "If the city approves the developer's plans to cut into the open space, it may set a precedent that we don't want," explained Bernal resident Robin Taylor.

Plans to develop land at the end

of Bonview Street are being scru-

tinized by neighbors who fear that

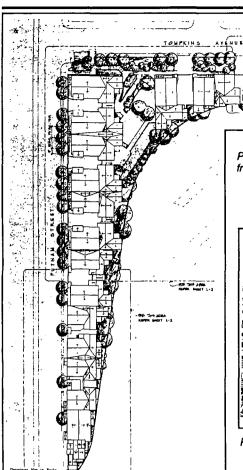
Bonview/Elsie

Developer

Neighbors Wary of

"The approved plans already include cutting down two magnificent pines." Taylor says that a proposal to cut into the greenbelt has been submitted to receive a variance from the city. He and other members of the North West Bernal Block Club and North West Bernal Design Review Board are keeping an eye on the proposed development.

Neighbors concerned about the possible development on Bernal Hilltop are invited to attend that next block club meeting by calling Robin Taylor at 647-4596. •



Plans for Market Heights, affordable family housing, as viewed from above on Putnam Street and Tompkins Avenue



Partial rear elevation of Putnam Street Building

Sewer Shaft

continued from page 4...

in a document entitled: "Summary of Comments and Responses." This is then submitted to the Planning Commission for certification along with the draft EIR. After the Board of Supervisors reviews the draft EIR, the Planing Commission recommends approval or denial. If approved, the Supervisors sign

The Supervisors are the ones who will eventually select the alternative and sign the EIR. It is important to let them know your ideas, thoughts, and opinions. What You Can Do:

• Request to be on the mailing list to receive the draft Environmental Impact Report for the Bayside Discharge Alternatives Project. Call:

Frank Felice, Environmental Coordinator (415) 554-8226 1680 Mission Street San Francisco, CA 94103

· Attend the public hearing. If you are on the above mailing list, you will be notified of the time and place. We will also try to post it around the hill. This is the important meeting to voice your opinion!

·Send written comments within the 30-day period.

· Write the Board of Supervisors. Let them know your posi-

tion NOW so they are ready and informed when the draft EIR lands in

Community Forum on Market Heights

By Helen Helfer, **BHHC** Executive Director

Interested neighbors throughout our community are invited to a Community Forum on Tuesday, December 14th from 7:00-8:30pm at the Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue. Sponsored by the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, this is an opportunity for new and old-time residents to meet the architect and members of our planning and development team for Market Heights.

In July, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve our Negative Declaration, and again voted unanimously in October on a supplemental report more clearly addressing urban design issues. The Negative Declaration was then sent to the Board of Supervisors which ratified it on November 8th with a 10-1 vote. The legislation was introduced by Supervisor Kevin Shelley.

Our 99 year lease with the city for the hillside behind the Farmer's Market was also approved 10-1 at the Board of Supervisors November 8th. This lease

their mailbasket.

• If you are opposed to the tunnel/shaft, you may want to help with the petition drive. Or, if you just want to learn more, attend the meeting at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue on Thursday,

(which is only for the unused hillside and not for any land occupied by the Farmer's Market) is enormously helpful to show our clear ownership interest in the land.

As Mayor Jordan stated in his letter to the Planning Commission in July: "After considerable negotiation with representatives, both supportive and opposed to the (Market Heights) project, I am pleased to see a plan that I believe would have no negative impact on Farmer's Market or the surrounding neighborhood....In a city that has become unaffordable for many working class families, innovative developments are critical to our future. The Bernal Heights Housing Corporation and our Office of Housing have worked to develop this project which exemplifies this goal.'

We hope you can join us on December 14th to hear more about Market Heights. If you can't come, or would like further information before then, please feel free to call our office at 648-0330 and ask for the updated Fact Sheet on Market Heights.

January 13th, at 7:00 p.m. • If you would like to receive an information packet from the DPW, call Alex Mamek, Public Affairs Office: (415) 431-9430.•

- Collectively written by Concerned Bernal Neighbors who Oppose the Shaft



California Pacific Medical Center Invites You...

California Pacific Medical Center is developing a long range plan in its continuing effort to more efficiently provide the full spectrum of health care services to our community.

Please join us at one of the public meetings listed below to learn more about these proposals and to offer your own ideas, comments, and questions.

> Wednesday, December 1, 1993 7 to 9 p.m. 30th Street Senior Services 225-30th Street San Francisco

Wednesday, December 8, 1993 7 to 9 p.m. California Campus Bothin Auditorium 3700 California Street San Francisco

Thursday, December 16, 1993 7 to 9 p.m. Pacific Campus Conference Center 2333 Buchanan Street San Francisco



5th Annual Fiesta on the Hill Best One Ever!

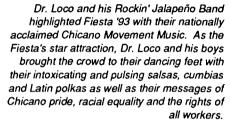
By Demece Garepis, Fiesta On The Hill '93 Coordinator

WOW! Did we have a great time, children, youth, adults and seniors! On Saturday, October 23rd from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center and co-sponsored by the San Francisco Park and Recreation Dept. threw our annual community celebration in the Bernal Playground. Fiesta on the Hill is an alcohol free, multi-ethnic celebration of our community harmony, and an opportunity to take time out and do some serious face painting and major dancing. As always, the Fiesta was admission free. This Fiesta was the best one yet, according to all the over 2500

- continued on page 7...



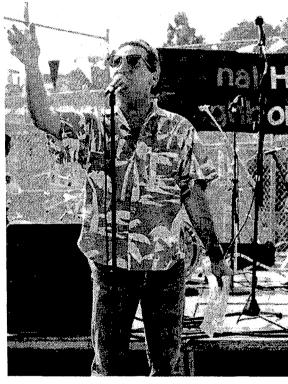
Photos by Robert Henderson



Children at the Fiesta never experienced a dull moment as dozens of activity tables filled the Fiesta. Pumpkin painting, button making, mural painting and storytelling were just a few of the wonderful activities put together by community residents and organizations who wanted to make the Fiesta a special day for kids.



The talent and wit of comedian Tom Ammiano highlighted the Fiesta. Pictured here, he has the crowd rolling in laughter as he attacks politicians on a local and national level.



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Vela Appointed to Park and Open Space Committee

Congratulations to Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center Director and Bernal resident Mauricio Vela, who was appointed by S.F. Supervisor Susan Leal in October to serve as a committee member on the Park and Open Space Citizen's Advisory Committee.

The 23 member committee will make recommendations on how the Park and Open Space's '94-'95 \$16.4 million budget will be spent. Nearly half of the budget has been slated for acquisition and development of open space, with smaller percentages dedicated to renovation, maintenance, administration and

after school recreation programs of current park properties and programs. "I would like to be an advocate for the community," said Vela of his appointment, "I think that those proposals which have the strongest community support and existing previous projects should be the priorities of funding by the Open Sapce Committee."

Bernal Heights has benefited from these funds through recent rennovations and repairs at Holly Park, Bernal Gym, Precita park and the many miniparks and gardens that enhance the Hill.

Fiesta '93!

- continued on page 7...

children, youth, seniors and adults who attended! And even if you didn't attend, you probably heard our lively music entertainment from local groups such as Giles Brothers Band, Harvey, Kombo Kwela, Pinch, Tom Ammiano, the Thomas R. Pollicita Middle School Cheerleaders, Ava Apple and Company Dancers, Pat Wilder's Wild Car Chase Band, and our ever incredible national home town band Dr. Loco's Rockin' Jalapeño Band! Merchants up and down Cortland, Mission, Bayshore, and Noe Valley put their businesses on the Bernal Business Map, the Fiesta Adbook centerfold. You can get a copy of the Bernal Business Map free at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. This attractive map illustrates our lovely neighborhood businesses, and dramatically points out to us residents that our neighborhood businesses are diverse and thriving! Let's patronize them! Children and youth painted enormous, colorful dragons and pumpkins in the Bernal Gym, while outside youth painted the most glorious mobile mural on the Basketball Court wall. Children were entertained by the baby pumpkin painting, the colorful clowns doing

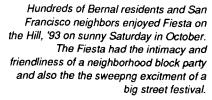
kids' face painting, the ladies on stilts Women Walking Tall, and the wonderful interactive exhibits of the Exploratorium, Academy of Sciences, the Randall Junior Museum, and the San Francisco SPCA! Every child walked away with a few paintings and a baby pumpkin! Plus, there were lots of preschool tables adding to the diverse entertainment and learning exhibits for kids.

A rainbow array of arts and crafts tables in the Bernal Playground as dozens of artists displayed their beautiful creations for the neighborhood. Exciting 'Go, go, GO!' chants from players at the BHNC Seniors' Game Wheel booth filled the playground and victorious shouts of 'BINGO!' came from the gym during afternoon bingo games. When families wanted a break from the activities, what better thing to do then eat and watch a neighborhood friend get dunked in the dunking booth? Eats were really fabulous this year, featuring Nicco's Cafe, Joe Johnson BBQ, Aida Macatangay's Phillipina Cuisine, and our very own BHNC Youth Committee's Secret Recipe Hot Dog and Hamburgers. There were lots of children waiting very patiently in line to dunk their principal, Randy Haves of Paul Revere Elementary School. And once again this

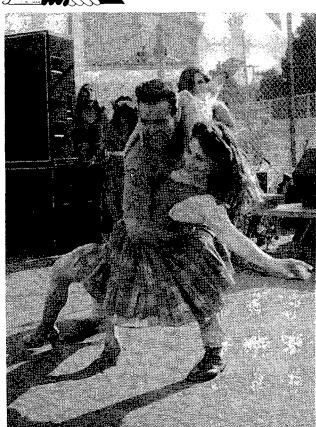


year, the traditional yell 'Dunk the Clown!' sent sleeping clown Nic Griffin smashing into the cold water!

Bernal residents also got better acquainted with the many senior, youth, and community organizing programs of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, and the affordable housing development projects of its sister organization, the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, also a nonprofit organization. The Fiesta is :BHNC's major annual fundraising event, and those funds help support our comprehensive senior, community development, and youth programs. Just look on the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center's front door at 515 Cortland, and you'll find lots of services and programs that could use your volunteer time and talents! You'll get a bi-monthly newsletter keeping you informed of all the activities of Bernal Heights when you become a member! Remember, Bernal Heights is our neighborhood, and we like making our own unique, fun brand of economic and cultural diversity! You can still pick up a Fiesta On the Hill T-shirt for cheap at the BHNC, but there's only a few left! The Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center would like to thank all the incredible Fiesta volunteers and these very special Bernal merchants who helped make this Fiesta the best one ever! See you next year at Fiesta '94!







The Ava Apple and Company Dancers performed with incredbile agility and entusiasm to a delighted Fiesta crowd. Local and multi-cultural dances reflected Bernal's abundant talent and diversity.



A girl admires the magic of crystal necklaces displayed by local artisans. Dozens of tables of jewelry and arts & crafts created a colorful sea of creativity at the Fiesta.

Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center

Board Committee Meetings December, 1993

Senior Committee Monday, 12/6, 4:00 p.m.

Organizing/Outreach Committee Tuesday, 12/7, 6:30 p.m.

Youth Committee Thursday, 12/9, 7:00 p.m. Fundraising Committee Monday, 12/13, 6:00 p.m.

Executive Committee Monday, 12/13, 7:00 p.m.

All meetings held at 515 Cortland Avenue.

Call the BHNC at 206-2140 for more information.



San Francisco, CA 94103 415/863-7502 FAX 863-0407

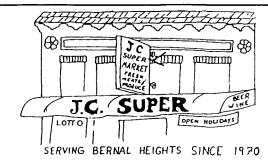
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For Sale: 48" round rattan table with 4 chairs, upholstered seats. Excellent condition. \$250.00. 826-1070.

For Sale: Two Hanging Wicker Swag Lamps. Mint condition, used only two years. Half price: \$31 and \$28, includes decorative bulbs. Marie, 206-0872.

Musical Equipment Wanted. Guitars, saxophones, amplifiers wanted. Absolute top cash paid. 641-8881.

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Donate New & Unused Toys to the Bernal Heights Youth Committee's Toy Giveaway to low income children in Bernal Heights. Please drop off toys to Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland, 9am - 5pm before 12/16/93. Clear out your closets of unused gifts or buy a toy for a child in need this holiday season. For drop off or pick up information, call us at 206-2140.

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Counseling/Tools for change. I provide a safe, nurturing environment to help you clarify times of transition, heal old wounds, release hindering patterns, and create positive changes in your life. Esther Goldman, M.A. (415) 431-1066. Sliding Scale.

Treat Yourself to a Massage. I utilize Swedish and Shiatzu massage techniques and accupressure to help alleviate stress and pain. Bernal home practice. Call Elva, 647-9712 to set up an appointment.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Help Deliver Meals to Seniors in Bernal Heights. Our new Emergency Meal Program provides temporary meal service to elderly in Bernal who are on waiting lists to receive regular service. Your help a few hours a month will make a difference for frail and homebound elderly in our community who face hunger. Contact Vicki at the Bernal Heights Senior Program, 206-2145.

Bernal Heights
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Hollday Volunteer Opportunities. Give a little of yourself this holiday season by helping to serve holiday meals, pack holiday food boxes, deliver gifts & food, gift wrap, or assist at holiday events for youth or seniors and families in need. It's a great way for you and your family to truly discover the meaning of the holidays. Call the Volunteer Center at 982-8999 for more information.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES WANTED

Youth are Ready to Work! Young people in Bernal Heights are gaining job skills and experience through the Ready For Work Program at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. If you own a business or are an employer, you can harness and benefit from the enthusiastic talent and skill of these young men and women by calling Raul Rodriguez, 206-2140.orena or Jess.

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Youth!

New Women & Childrens' Phone Referral Health Line

The San Francisco Department of Public Health has established a 1-800 referral line for Women and Childrens' Health Services. The goal of this state funded project is to provide greater access to free or low cost health services for high risk and low income women and children. Referrals are made for women, teenagers, children and babies who need free, Medi-Cal or low cost health care in San Francisco. Currently, referrals are made for the following services:

- Birth Control Pregnancy Testing
- Pregnancy Check-Ups
- Pap Smears
 Breast Exams
- Medical care for babies and children (including immunization)
- Dental Care for children

Generally, referrals are made to publicly funded medical clinics and to private health providers who participate in State Depart-

Toy Give-A-Way for Bernal Children

The Bernal Heights Youth Committee will give hundreds of wrapped Christmas toys to low income children in Bernal Heights on December 16th. The committee hopes to make the season merrier for the children through this annual event.

Parents who would like to sign their child or children up for the give-a-way must pick up and complete an application by December 13th. Applications are available at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue. Call Lorena or Jess at 206-2140 for more information.

ment of Health Services, comprehensive health programs for women and children.

The phone number is 1-800-300-9950. The phone is staffed by a health worker(s) who speaks English, Cantonese, and Spanish. The best time to call is Monday through Friday, 8 A.M. until 5 P.M. A recorder will take messages during off hours and these calls will be returned during business hours.

Donate New or Unused Toys to Children in Our Community!

The Bernal Heights Youth Committee is organizing a Christmas Toy Give-A-Way on December 16th for low income children in Bernal Heights.

Bring your donations to the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue and help us make this Christmas merrier for the children.

For more information call Lorena or Jess at the BHNC:

206-2140

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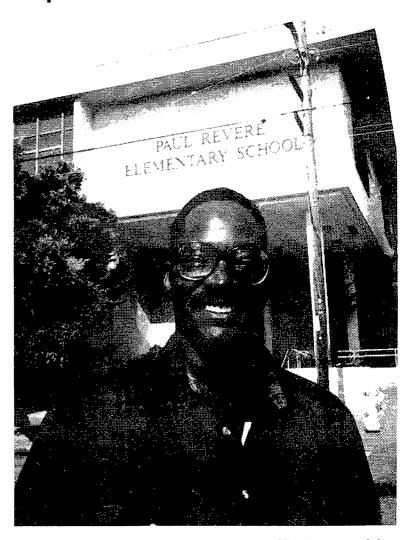
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Super School Volunteer



Congratulations to **Daron Beasley**, who was one of five honored recipients who received the Family Advocate Award at The Family Forum parenting conference held November 20 in South San Francisco. The awards were presented by San Francisco-Peninsula Parent Newsmagazine to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to families and children in the Bay Area.

Mr. Beasley was nominated for the award by the *New Bernal Journal*, who highlighted his volunteer work at Paul Revere Elementary School and S.F. School Volunteers Award in our Aug./Sept. '93 issue. Volunteering 20-30 hours per week, he contributes to the school as a tutor, yard monitor, conflict manager and fundraiser.

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Registrations now being accepted for pre-school and after-school programs

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All programs licensed by the State of California Financial aid, to the extent possible, is made available to those in need.

A senior shouldn't

have to go hungry

because of a wait-



Bernal Heights Senior Program participant Emma Martinez poses with some of her "friends" that she created for the program's annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Boutique on December 11 & 12 at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Avenue. These teddies and bunnies, as well as other wonderful handmade gifts will be available at old fashioned prices.

Seniors Find Healing through Massage

The Bernal Heights Senior Program has been blessed with a proclaimed "angel" who visits the center every Thursday morning. Seniors are treated to a soothing professional massage by Bernal resident Elva Rodriguez. Utilizing Swedish and Shiatzu massage techniques and accupressure, Elva asks a sliding scale fee of \$5 - \$10 for a half hour massage- a mere fraction of standard fees. "I know that seniors are on a very limited budget and can not afford regular massage fees. I also know that they suffer the most and are in greatest need of massage." She explains stress is the main affliction of the younger people whom she works on, "But with seniors, there are usually more ailments such as arthritis and high blood pressure which gives them even more pain and stress than a younger per-

Working with seniors, Elva has discovered that many of her senior clients live alone and really appreciate the massage for mental as well as physical reasons. "I sense that they are in need of nurturing. Many live alone now and there is no one to touch them or really listen and share with them." Elva finds great satisfaction in being able to nurture her senior clients and provide a block of time that belongs to the senior themselves for total relaxation and attention.

Elva, who has been practicing massage for the last 12 years, grew up knowing that she she wanted to be a healing force in people's lives. "My grandmother did healing massage and I've always wanted to do something like her - it's hands on work with people that I truly enjoy."

• By Vicki Victoria

For massage for seniors at the Bernal Heights Senior Program call 206-2142 for an appointment. To contact Elva for regular massage at her home practice, call 647-9712 or an appointment.

Emergency Meals

continued from page 1...

Meals on Wheels, only to have to turn around and inform these seniors of long waiting lists that have varied from a wait of one to four months. A senior shouldn't have to go hungry because of a waiting list."

San Francisco's Meals on Wheels delivers daily, nutritious hot meals to hundreds of frail and homebound seniors for a \$1.50 -\$4.50 sliding scale. "Private meal delivery services exist, but the average fee for a meal is \$10.50," Victoria added, "Most of the seniors I refer (to Meals on Wheels) have incomes of only \$650 per

month. Often times there is not enough money to buy adequate food after prescription

drugs, the rent and utilities are paid for."

ing list."

The Emergency Meal Program aims to immediately deliver frozen, packaged meals to seniors in Bernal Heights who are on the city's Meal on Wheels waiting list or who are temporarily unable to cook for themselves. These free frozen meals will be delivered weekly by community volunteers until the senior begins receiving Meals on Wheels service and/or after they have recovered from their illness, accident or operation and able to cook for themselves or attend a senior lunch program.

The Emergency Meal Program would also provide a microwave on loan to seniors who don't have one. "I think the loaning of microwaves is essential because it would allow the senior to heat their meal quicker and with greater ease than a conventional oven," says Victoria. She explained that these meals would be free of charge to the senior because she hopes to get the majority of the microwaves and frozen packaged meals donated by manufacturers, companies and organizations. Victoria also feels that it's important to keep the service free in order to allow low and fixed income seniors to utilize the service without any hesitations or financial barriers.

A 1992 national and local study by the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C. reports that many seniors often find themselves having to choose between buying food or purchasing needed medications, paying rent, utilities and other bills on their limited incomes. As a part of this study, San Francisco's Meals on Wheels program conducted a local survey which revealed that 1 in 5 seniors in the city experienced this type of "food insecurity" at least once in a six month period.

"Food insecurity" includes situations where a senior has to choose between buying food or paying for other living expenses, skipping meals because of lack of food in their home, having to borrow money for food, having to access an emergency food pantry

> or simply not having the money to buy food. Researchers hope that the results of their study will help

agencies mobilize community resources to help seniors most at risk for hunger or having anxiety about hunger.

The BHNC is confident that the Bernal Heights community will volunteer to help their elderly neighbors in need. "Good volunteers will be essential to the success of the Emergency Meal Program," said Victoria, "Not only will our volunteers deliver weekly frozen meals, but they will also be a friendly, caring face who will monitor the well being of a frail elder and let us know of other needs and concerns for service that the senior may have. I think everyone working in this program will feel really good about helping out and making a difference in our community." •

The Emergency Meal Program is looking for a donation of a large capacity restaurant freezer for the storage of frozen meals, as well as microwaves and commercially packaged frozen meals. Community volunteers interested in working with the Emergency Meal Program, as well as other senior needs, are encouraged to sign up for the BHNC's Senior Services Volunteer Training on Saturday, January 29, 1994 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. by calling 206-9177 or 206-2145.



Volunteer Training

for Bernal Heights Senior Services Programs

Saturday, January 29,1994

10:00 am to 2:00 pm Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center 515 Cortland Avenue Lunch will be served

~ join the community spirit of assisting elders in Bernal Heights~ Call Carolee or Carmen at 206-9177

iving on the Hill

Bernal Hilltop Natural History

The Star Lily or Death Camas

by Barbara M. Pitschel

tar lily" and "death camas" are among the intriguing common names associated with one of the most beautiful and earliest-blooming flowers on Bernal Hill. The plant is a bulb, a member of the lily family (Liliaceae), with the botanical name Zigadenus fremontii.

Plants in this species are extremely variable. Two to three foot tall plants inhabit chaparral and other brushlands. An intermediate form has been reported from the Presidio. Grassland plants such ass occur on Bernal, jewel-like miniatures rarely exceeding four to ten inches in height, have sometimes been considered a distinct variety (var. minor).

"Star lily" describes the several six-petaled, cream-colored flowers, an inch or less in diameter, which rise on a single stem from linear folded leaves that arch outward from the bulb. A large yellow nectar gland at the base of each petal and sepal serves as an attractant to bees, and possibly other pollinators. The name "Zigadenus" is derived from the Greek words for "join" and "gland", a reference to these

nectar glands. ("Fremontii" commemorates John C. Fremont, an early American explorer who first reported many of California's unique plants.)

The "star lilies" bloom in the period of greenness that follows the early rains, often appearing as carly as January. They can always be seen on the southwesternmost point of the hill, as well as below the phone company fence on the hillside facing northwest. The species responds favorably to fire, so you can often also find plants in areas that burned during the previous summer.

"Death camas" is a common name associated with the entire Zigadenus genus, due to the toxicity of steroidal alkaloids that are present throughout the plants but particularly concentrated in the bulbs. The bulbs of these white-flowered plants are similar to those of the edible blue-flowered Camassia, staple food of early California native Americans.

If you want to see "star lilies", you need to look for them early in the season, as they will be past their peak at the height of the wildflower display in March and April. Or, if you would like us to point them out to you, join Bernal Hilltop Native Grassland Restoration work parties at 11 a.m. on the third Sunday of each month. Call me at 282-5066 for details.



A President's Walk on Bernal Hill

t was Sunday, October 17th, and the City displayed a relaxed attitude as the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and former President of Costa Rica strolled around the rim of Bernal Heights taking in the sights of this famous international City who Conde Nast magazine had just rated "the most attractive city" in the world by its readers.

It was a spectacular afternoon for showing off San Francisco from our beloved hill. Skies were clear, after a few days of showers and scattered cloudiness, and the sun cast its orange brilliance over the City in celebration of autumn. The dried grasses of the hill displayed the last of their light browns and creams.

Our visitor was greeted by many dogs whose owners had set loose for a sunny afternoon day's run on the rim walk. He was clearly enchanted by the visual and natural setting and commented on how fortunate it was to be able to reside in such a distinctive environment.

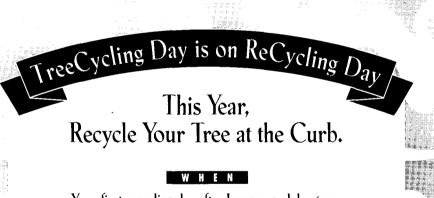
Towards the west our visitor commented on the architectural richness evident as tightly packed homes grasped the hillsides mimicking the natural terrain of the east slopes of Diamond Heights, Upper Noe Valley and Twin Peaks. In the valley below, the flatness of the Mission District was made even more evident surrounded by hills on all sides. Here reside great populations from all of Latin America which made our visitor take note again of the neighborhood he had just minutes before toured.

Out to the north, the upper towers of the Golden Gate Bridge were quite evident in their unique red hue. The light granite color and sweeping geometric architecture of St. Mary's Cathedral contrasted greatly with the rigid horizontal and vertical lines of adjacent structures. Towards Downtown, high rises competed quietly for space and definition among the skyline.

The visit by Dr. Oscar Arias ended with a surprise visit to the home of Mrs. Carmen Munoz, a Bernal Senior and familiar volunteer at the Bernal Heights Community Center. Over a fresh fruit salad, Dr. Arias and Carmen chatted on the long history and cultural diversity prevalent on our hill.

Dr. Arias went on the following day to address the international convention of the Pacific Rim Council on Urban Development as its Keynote Speaker at the Mark Hopkins.

- By M.J.

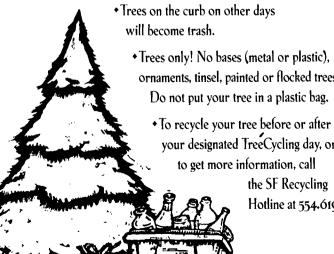


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> your designated TreeCycling day, or to get more information, call

the SF Recycling Hotline at 554.6193.

San Francisco RECYCLING

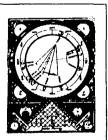


The calendar year 1993 will go down in the annals of astrological history. We were shaken up, flooded, broken down and zapped with changes all over the globe.

Uranus and Neptune overlapped on October 24th and will not do

so again for 171 years. enough cracks in the era that the final years an easy job of bringing have long been heralded Age.

Saturn and Pluto (90 angle in the sky) configuration will regave rise to the Waco, March and the Russian



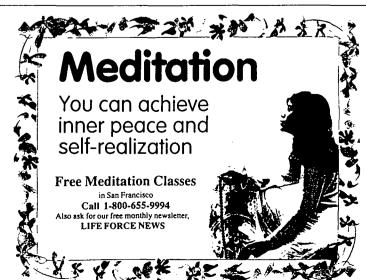
Their activities have put walls holding up the old of the nineties will have the last of it down. They as an augury of the New

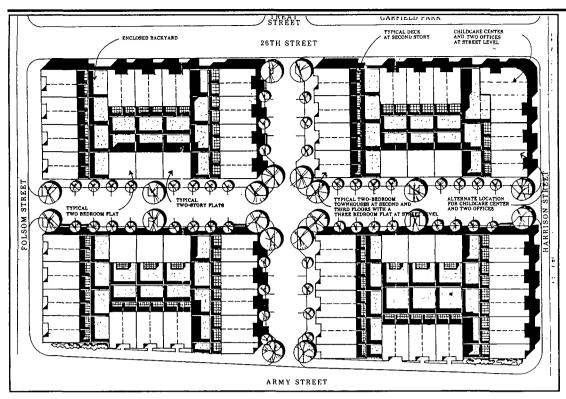
make their last square January 2nd. This tense peat the energies which Texas standoff in crisis in early October.

Like the Uranus and Neptune configuration, this one carries the symbolism of old edifices being hit by the wrecking ball of inexorable change. It too signals the transition between the Ages of Pisces, now ending, and Aquarius, about to begin.

Say a prayer to this transition on January 11th, when the new moon will feature no less than seven planets clustered together in Capricorn, a conjunction the likes of which hasn't happened since the 1680's. •

Astrology readings by Jessica Murray, 626-7795.





Site plan for rennovation of Bernal Dwellings offers a townhouses type of community.

blocks (see the site plan illustration); 4) provide the funds for a community-based non-profit housing development corporation, perhaps our own Bernal Heights Housing Corporation (BHHC), to replace the 48 units demolished but not rebuilt on site; 5) create an exciting community service program targeting high school youth and young adults to recruit, train and pay them to do something positive for the development and the neighborhood; 6) fund a broad set of social services designed to meet the needs of individual families in the Dwell-

Interim Executive Director Asks for Partnership with Community

Interim SFHA Executive Director Michael Kelly announced the specifics of the program in a meeting of Bernal Dwellings tenants, community activists and SFHA staff. He was joined in the presentation by Bernal Heights resident Ron Atielski, in charge of the design and physical aspects of the reconstruction; Deborah Whittle, Director of Resident Services; and B. G. Nabors-Glass, Manager in charge of the nonconstruction activity. Kelly said that "Strong community support was one of the aspects of the San Francisco proposal that set it apart from the other cities competing for the funds. The support of the BHNC and the Precita Valley Committee were key to winning the grant," He promised to set up a new body to provide community and public housing resident input into the Bernal Dwellings reconstruction - the Friends of Bernal Dwellings. He also committed to hold monthly meetings to actively plug the community into the process.

Reconstruction Timeline and **Process**

The next important step in the process is the grant agreement between SFHA and HUD. Kelly hoped to have it by the end of November. The hurdles for the development then include the writing and submission of an application for demolition and disposition within six months after the grant agreement. It must include plans for temporary reloca-

tion of current Dwellings residents during construction, and a plan for replacing the 48 units not replaced on site. Kelly hopes to hire an architectural team after Jan. 1, 1994, refine the design, and begin demolition within 18 months.

Helfer and Vela Speak Up for Resident Jobs, Organization

BHHC Executive Director Helen Helfer spoke up to demand that the residents of Bernal Dwellings get "good jobs working on the demolition and reconstruction." She pointed out that very few residents of the Alemany Public Housing Development got jobs in the \$8.5 million rehabilitation recently completed there, and that it is critical to build long-term economic opportunities within the Bernal Dwellings community. Neighborhood Center Director Mauricio Vela stated that Alemany residents and their surrounding neighbors still suffer from drug dealers, gun shots and violence. "If you change the physical conditions but leave the social conditions the same, you haven't solved the problem." Both Helfer and Vela called for increased support for "the most crucial part of any improvement in public housing the building of strong tenant association to give the residents a voice and a concrete role."

Full-time Staffer for Bernal Dwellings

Kelly announced that SFHA had hired Malik Rahim, an African-American with extensive community organizing experience, to provide full-time help to the tenants to get organized.

Conclusion: Follow the Successful Holly Court Model

Bernal Heights residents urged Kelly and SFHA to adopt the community and resident organizing model that led to cleaning the drug dealers out of Holly Court Public Housing Development in Bernal Heights, near Holly Park. Tenants such as current BHNC Board member BeBe Castaing, past Board member Gloria Buck and resident activist William Tupoala worked with neighbors like Tony Rodriguez, Susan Melteson, Jonathan McCurdy, and Jeannie Gustafson to build organizations in the blocks surrounding the dwellings, and the public housing development itself. Such collaborative efforts do work and are a model for breaking down the isolation too often found between residents in public housing and the surrounding neighborhood. •

Bernal Library News

READER'S GROUP

The Bernal Library has an adult reader's group that meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 4 to 6pm. We all read the same book and discuss it with much gusto, some times with tea and cookies. Some of the titles we've read since January are My Antonia, Death in Venice, Crossing to Safety and Unbearable Lightness of Being. Our selection for December will be Dylan Thomas' Child Christmas in Wales on Dec. 23rd at 4pm.

If you are interested in joining us of finding out more about the program, please give us a call at 695-5160.

FII MC

For those of you who love films, we want your participation, too! On Nov. 20th we launched a video program featuring film classics from the "Thin Man" series, starring Myrna Loy and William Powell. Depending on the response to the Saturday format, we will continue the afternoon matinees in January 1994. Call us for up coming programs.

WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

On Saturday Dec. 18th from 2:30 to 6pm the Bernal Library will host a Winter Solstice celebration led by Ben Koenig. Participants are urged to come in costume, bring drums or rattles, a candle (taper) and finger food to share for the feast afterwards. All are welcome. We encourage you to bring an object for the altar, something disposable but with value for you like a special rock, feather or shell. Plan to attend this exciting event-it's a great opportunity to let go of the old year and invite in the new! Come celebrate the season with your friends and neighbors!

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Besides Family Story Time on Dec 1st, 15 th and 29th at 7:30 pm, there are Movies! Movies! On Tuesday the & at 10:30 am and Wednesday the 8th at 7:30 pm we'll be showing Myra, Chicken Thing, Caps for Sale and Doctor De Soto. On Tuesday the 21th at 10:30 am and Wednesday the 22nd: Three Robbers, Millions of Cats, Madeline and Witch Who was Afraid of Witches.

The Origami Club

Meets the first Saturday of the month between 2 and 5 pm upstairs in the library.

NEW ARRIVALS

M. Atwood's The Robber Bride; P. Hoeg's Smila's Sense of Snow; D Koontz' Mr Murder; H. Doerr's Consider This, Senora; J. Seinfeld; Seinlanguage; A. Walker's Warrior Marks

Here's our schedule for the week:

Tues., 10 to 6 pm (closed between 12 and 1pm); Wed., 1 to 9 pm, Thurs, Fri., and Sat., 1 to 6 pm.

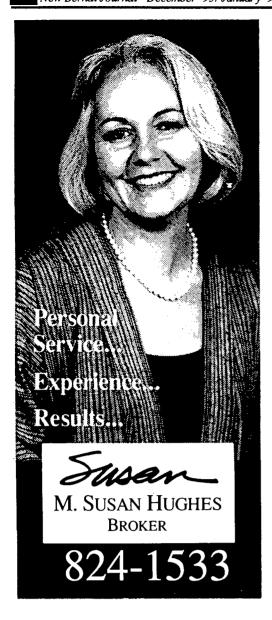
Happy Holidays to all from the Bernal Branch!

Feliz Navidad! Happy New Year and Prospero Año!





- By Buck Bagot



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What's Up Along Cortland

By Linda Eckman

here's a new energy around Bernal Heights, and nowhere is that energy more in evidence than along Cortland Avenue, in the varied businesses that call the street home. There's a feeling of renewed commitment to the neighborhood served by these businesses and sense of pride in the successful ventures making Cortland Avenue again an exciting, comfortable place where neighbors can shop.

Imre Mandoki, President of the Cortland Merchants' Association and owner of the Hungarian Sausage Factory & Bistro at 419 Cortland, believes that change began with the opening of the Good Life Grocery nearly two years ago. Before that time, residents had to leave the neighborhood to shop for necessities. But the Good Life, and the other new shops that followed, added necessary services just a few steps away from peoples doors, thereby starting the infusion of new life into a street once considered a poor investment.

Mandoki, who with his wife Jutka makes sausages and other specialties from their native Hungary right on the premises, wants to see the Cortland merchants band together during Christmastime with a unified holiday theme. Banners, bought last year thanks to a donation by the Bank of America, again will be put up along the street, but Mandoki would like to see every merchant put up Christmas lights on their windows, giving Cortland at night a pleasant ambiance. Also, instead of having currently unoccupied storefronts stand empty, he would like to see them display products of businesses along Cortland, to take away that abandoned look. Such beautification would benefit the merchants positively in increased business and neighborhood pride.

Several new businesses have opened up in the recent weeks along Avenue, infusing even more new energy.

All Jazzed Up, at 328 Cortland, is a consignment shop, selling previouslyowned clothing, shoes and jewelry. Owner Lola Greco, a native San Franciscan, believes her store provides a need that went unfilled since the loss of a similar shop some time ago. Greco, who comes to this business with ten years of retail and retail management experience, says that consignment shopping was always a hobby of hers, so a move to open up a business like this was a natural. She says that once a store such as hers opens, she has no lack of clients bringing her merchandise— the only trick is being selective. All Jazzed Up a variety of quality fashions for budgets, even including some New York and Paris designer items.

A very interesting space to appear along Cortland is Heartfelt at 436 Cortland, a store specializing in cards, candles, wrapping paper and objects d'art of all types. The store, owned by three year neighborhood residents Kathleen Dunphy and Alan Silverman, is open and airy; the back of the store, covered almost entirely by a huge window, serves as artist Dunphy's studio. She is responsible for the interior design of the shop as well and designed the whimsical sign over the door, which was then created by a neighborhood artisan. The ceiling has been torn back to expose the original beams, which have been painted white and Dunphy's cheerful design cover the walls and even the floor. Silverman and Dunphy also feel a very strong commitment to local artists, and will continue to offer various for sale by Bernal Heights neighbors. As a service

to their customers, they also offer postage stamps for sale at no extra markup.

The latest merchants on the hill are Joe and Simon Dabit, owners of Bernal Height Produce at 800 Cortland, across from the King Tut Deli. As brother Joe explained it, produce has been in the Dabits'family for generations: Joe has owned several produce stores, Simon currently has store on Polk and Green, and both their father and grandfather were in the business. That's a lot of knowledge to bring into this new venture. Dabit believes that there is need for a good produce store in Bernal Height and believes his corner location is an excellent one. Although a native San Franciscan (via Jerusalem), he does not live currently in Bernal Height, but probably soon will, already very impressed with what a friendly, sunny place it is . He plans to offer lots fresh fruit, vegetables, and a little bit of organic produce at first, while he experiments with the needs of the community and sees what the neighborhood enjoys. But both he and brother Simon are more than ready to open the latest doors along Cortland Avenue.

Also in merchant news, the end of November saw the passing of the one year anniversary for Antoinette and Claudia Lama's Jinjee Flowers and Gifts at 399 Cortland. The sisters held an open house on Saturday, November 20, to share the celebration with the entire neighborhood. Beverages and appetizers were served and everyone reported that they had a marvelous time. The flower business has been a lot of fun and learning experience for the two women, and they expect to be able to provide even more interesting items and more special services during the coming year. The Lama sisters, and the rest of the Cortland merchants, look forward to wishing the families of Bernal Height Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. •

If you have any information or news about businesses in Bernal Height, please contact Linda Eckman at the NBJ, 206-2144.

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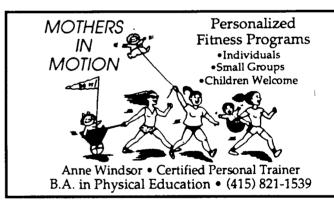
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Bernal Calendar

East Slope Election

The East Slope Design Review Board will hold its annual election meeting on Thursday, December 9th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Avenue. The Board is concerned with development issues. The election is open, and all residents of the Bernal Heights East Slope are invited. Nominations are welcome. For information: call Terry Milne, 285-8978.

Winter Basketball Sign Ups

The city-wide Rec and Park league is now recruiting. Sign up at the Bernal Heights Recreation Center at 500 Moultrie Street at Jarboe Street. Call Derek (team coach) or Marquita for more information at 695-5007.

Christmas Arts & Crafts Boutique

Saturday & Sunday, December 11 & 12 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Beautiful handmade gifts and decorations at bargain prices will highlight this annual fundraising event for the Bernal Heights Senior Program. Jewelry and clothing will also be featured. A delicious Filipino Lunch plate on Saturday and a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday will be available at the Boutique for only \$3.50 each. Children can visit Santa & Mrs. Claus on Sunday from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Admission Free. Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Avenue. Call 206-2145 for more information.

Community Forum on Market Heights

Tuesday, December 14th, 7:00 p.m. at the Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Avenue. The community is invited to meet with the architect and members of the Market Heights planning and developing team regarding the development of the hillside behind Farmer's Market for affordable family housing. For more information, call the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, 206-2140.

Toy Give-A-Way for Bernal Children

The Bernal Heights Youth Committee will give hundreds of wrapped Christmas toys to low income children in Bernal Heights on December 16th. Pre-sign ups required. Application are due by December 13th and are available at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue. Call Lorena or Jess at 206-2140 for more information.

Town Meeting: Proposed Sewer Shaft on Bernal Hill

Bernal residents who would like to know more about the proposed tunnel and sewer shaft that may be placed in the Bernal Hilltop should attend an informational meeting on Thursday, January 13th at 7:00 p.m. held at the Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Avenue.

Moultrie Neighbors

-continued from page 1...

Neighbors later learned that officers that should have participated in the neighborhood meeting were at a downtown hotel guarding the President of China.

Outraged by the no show, as well as repeated lack of police response to their requests and needs, neighbors of the Moultrie Street area have organized and decided take action at the next Police Commission Hearing on December 8th. The neighbors will demand the removal of Captain Wilson from the Ingleside Station.

For months, neighbors have expressed their concerns to Captain Wilson of repeated problems around the Cortland/Moultrie/Crescent Streets areas which include: increased car break-ins, verbal harassment, intimidation and lack of CPOP patrols. In the past few months, the Moultrie Street area has fallen victim to

increased drive by shootings since September. A women was assaulted and raped in October. Two homes owned by elderly residents on Moultrie were shaken on November 16th by gunfire which entered their houses.

Moultrie Neighbors will work with Project Safe to organize a neighborhood watch group on their street and will also become active in the BHNC's Youth Outreach Committee. Neighbors, however, feel that the most immediate need and effective plan of action is to pressure the Police Commission to remove Captain Wilson in order to have a police station that is more willing and available to work with the neighbors and communities that it serves. - By Vicki Victoria

Bernal residents are encouraged to fight for better policing of the hill by attending the Police Commission Hearing on Wednesday, December 8th at 5:30 p.m. at the Hall of Justice, 850 Bryant Street. For more information, contact Mauricio Vela at the BHNC, 206-2140.

& Mauricio Vela

TO ADVERTISE CALL:

206-2144

Don't miss the next upcoming

February/March '94 issue of the

New Bernal Journal

delivered on 2/5/94

Dorothy Coakley to Return to Bernal Library

After a 10 month battle waged by Bernal residents, Dorothy Coakley, who was temporarily and involuntarily assigned to the Western Addition Branch, will return to the Bernal Branch Library as its Children's Librarian. "Neil Parikh, Chief of Branches, has left a message for me saying that Dorothy will return to the Bernal Branch on January 11th of next year," exclaimed Mauricio Vela, BHNC Director. "I think that Ron Morgan and Lisa Kaborchya of the Save the Bernal

Library Committee deserve kudos for keeping things going during this struggle to get Dorothy back."

Vela also added that he was appreciative of everyone who cooperated with the committee and the BHNC, "Especially Ken Dowlin, City Librarian, Jim Herlihy, President of the Library Commission, Neil Parikh and Jean Heaverly and the Bernal Branch staff who really held the library together during this time."

HOMEBUYING, SELLING, AND FINANCING

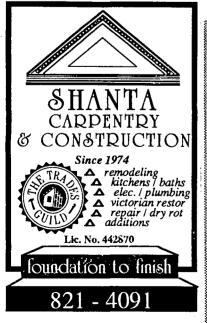
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